15 MAY 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

VIA : Deputy Director for Plans

SUBJECT : Release of Documents Furnished to the President's Commission by the Central Intelligence Agency

On Monday, 8 May 1972, Mr. visited Congressman Richard Ichord to show him the exhibits he requested and to answer any questions. Mr. Ichord is Chairman of the House Committee on Internal Security. It was quickly apparent that he knew very little about the Oswald case, and that he had been misled by Bernard Fensterwald, Jr. regarding the extent of CIA's coverage of Oswald when he was in Mexico City. Mr. Ichord examined the documents and raised a number of points which were answered candidly and without reservation. He thanked us for easing his mind and said that we could consider the matter closed. Mr. Ichord was well-disposed toward this Agency from the onset and assured us that anything said or shown to him would be held in strict confidence. A more detailed memorandum is attached.

1 Attachment, A/S

Document Number 1057-94TR

for FOIA Review on SEP 1976

SUBJECT: Lee Harvey Oswald Case: Briefing of Congressman Richard Ichord, 8 May 1972

1. Mr. Joseph O'Neill, Office of the Legislative Counsel, presented Mr. , who furnished the exhibits requested by the Congressman, and answered his questions as follows:

2. Mr. Ichord said he was concerned over one aspect of the Oswald Investigation from the standpoint of his committee. He wanted to know if "during CIA's investigation of Oswald when he was in Mexico" we developed any evidence of a conspiratorial relationship between the Soviets and Oswaldeither through our coverage of the Embassy or outside meetings. He specifically referred to Soviet consular officials Pavel Antonovich Yatskov and Valeriy Vladimirovich Kostikov, one or both of whom Oswald contacted at the Soviet Embassy. (Both Yatskov and Kostikov were identified in the Commission's Report as consular officials and KGB representatives.) I told him that CIA did not have Oswald under investigation when he was in Mexico City; directed his attention to the pertinent exhibit; and explained that the KGB affiliations of the two Soviets were supplied by CIA experts who were aware of their activities and not by anything said or indicated by Oswald in the evidence compiled by us. Mr. Ichord examined the exhibit, noted that Oswald's efforts only related to securing visas; indicated that he had been misinformed; and said that he had no further questions to ask on this point.

3. He said that his question was sparked by Bernard Fensterwald, Jr. a former constituent, about whom he knew very little when he requested the documents. Since then he has learned of Fensterwald's dubious credentials as an expert on the assassination and of his association with Jim Garrisson and others of questionable repute. I detailed our own difficulties with Fensterwald, his insistence that we are hiding something, and how, as Executive Director of the Committee to Investigate Assassinations, he has been pressing us to release our classified documents under threat of invoking the Freedom of Information Act.